

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In Re Application of:

Confirmation No.:

3288

Matthew L. Fourney

Group Art Unit:

3651

Serial No.:

10/719,805

Examiner:

Valenza, Joseph E.

Filed:

November 21, 2003

Docket No.

091303-1030

For:

APPARATUS AND METHODS FOR CONVEYING OBJECTS

AMENDMENT AND RESPONSE

Mail Stop Amendment Commissioner for Patents P.O. Box 1450 Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir:

The non-final Office Action mailed by the U.S. Patent and Trademark Office on September 27, 2004 (Part of Paper No. 4) has been carefully considered. In response thereto, please enter the following amendments and consider the following remarks.

AUTHORIZATION TO DEBIT ACCOUNT

It is not believed that extensions of time or fees for net addition of claims are required, beyond those, which may otherwise be provided for in documents accompanying this paper. However, in the event that additional extensions of time are necessary to allow consideration of this paper, such extensions are hereby petitioned under 37 C.F.R. § 1.136(a), and any fees required therefor (including fees for net addition of claims) are hereby authorized to be charged to deposit account no. 20-0778.

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RECORD OF SUBSTANCE OF INTERVIEW

On January 25, 2005, a telephone interview was conducted between Applicant's representative and Examiner Valenza. Applicant's representative inquired about the issues stated in the Office Action mailed 9/27/2004 and the proposed content of a Response and Amendment to overcome the rejections. Examiner Valenza was very helpful in identifying distinguishing features between the references and Applicant's disclosure. Additionally, Examiner Valenza noted another reference, U.S. Patent No. 3,857,472 to *Klint*, and provided meaningful discussion regarding distinguishing features over that reference as well.

Applicant wishes to thank Examiner Valenza for granting the telephone interview and for working with Applicant's representative to obtain appropriate claim coverage.